

Program will create jobs, increase energy independence, and strengthen economy

Washington, DC - Congressman John Adler today voted to pass the Solar Technology Roadmap Act to strengthen the American solar technology industry. The bipartisan bill creates a coordinated research and development program and public-private partnerships. New Jersey is a leader in solar technology, with more solar power installed per capita than any other state.

"Investment in solar technology will lower energy costs for families and small business owners, create new jobs in this tough economic climate, and reduce our dependence on foreign oil," Congressman Adler said. "New Jersey is a leader in clean energy programs, and we need to support advancements, like this one, that will benefit local residents."

This bipartisan bill requires the Secretary to select a group of experts from industry, academia, and government researchers to develop a long-term roadmap to guide solar energy research. This roadmap will help commercialize new solar technologies and create new public-private partnerships to make this clean, renewable energy source more affordable and accessible for all Americans.

This bill also authorizes federal funding for new research partnerships and demonstration projects for solar energy technologies. H.R. 3585 has thus far been officially endorsed by the National Association of Manufacturers, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA), BP, IBM, Intel and National Semiconductor.

Congressman Adler recently voted in support of the bipartisan American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009. This legislation will create 48,000 jobs in New Jersey and save taxpayers money on their monthly energy bill. In addition, Congressman Adler secured \$719,600 in federal funds to purchase and install solar panels on the Cherry Hill municipal building, \$902,500 to purchase and install solar panels on the Toms River municipal building, and helped secure \$1.76 million in renewable energy rebates from the State of New Jersey for solar projects on Joint Base McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst.